

## 2 Timothy 3:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

### Analysis

**For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts.** Paul provides specific example of false teachers' methods. "For of this sort are they which creep into houses" (ek toutōn gar eisin hoi endynontes eis tas oikias, ἐκ τούτων γάρ εἰσιν οἱ ἐνδύνοντες εἰς τὰς οἰκίας). The verb endynō (ἐνδύνω) means worm one's way in, infiltrate sneakily—like snakes or spies. They don't openly proclaim error but subtly enter homes, targeting vulnerable people.

Their victims: "silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts" (aichmalōtiz ontes gynaikaria sesōreumena hamartiais, agomena epithymiais poikilais, αἰχμαλωτίζοντες γυναικάρια σεσωρευμένα ἀμαρτίαις, ἀγόμενα ἐπιθυμίαις ποικίλαις). Gynaikarion (γυναικάριον) is diminutive—"little women," indicating weakness or immaturity, not adult strength. "Laden with sins" (sesōreumena hamartiais, σεσωρευμένα ἀμαρτίαις) means heaped up, burdened—guilt-ridden consciences make them vulnerable to false teaching promising relief without repentance. "Led away with divers lusts" (agomena epithymiais poikilais, ἀγόμενα ἐπιθυμίαις ποικίλαις) means driven by various passions—emotional instability, spiritual immaturity.

The verb "lead captive" (aichmalōtizontes, αἰχμαλωτίζοντες) means take prisoner, enslave. False teachers exploit vulnerable, guilt-ridden, emotionally unstable women, promising spiritual fulfillment while actually enslaving them further. This

isn't misogyny but pastoral wisdom: predatory teachers target the vulnerable, often women with limited theological training in ancient contexts.

## Historical Context

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First-century women typically had less formal education than men, making them more vulnerable to deception. False teachers targeted households through women, knowing that converting wives often influenced entire families. Some heretical groups (like Montanists) particularly appealed to women by offering greater roles than orthodox churches allowed. Paul doesn't blame victims but exposes predatory tactics. The warning remains relevant: spiritual predators target the vulnerable—emotionally needy, biblically illiterate, burdened by guilt—offering counterfeit solutions to real problems.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. What makes people vulnerable to false teaching today—emotional needs, biblical illiteracy, unresolved guilt—and how can churches address these vulnerabilities?
2. How can you develop biblical discernment to recognize when teachers are exploiting vulnerabilities rather than proclaiming truth?
3. In what ways should church leaders protect and equip those most vulnerable to deception, especially new or struggling believers?

## Interlinear Text

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ἐκ	τούτων	γάρ	εἰσιν	οἱ	ἐνδύνοντες	εἰς	τὰς	οἰκίας
of	this sort	For	are they	G3588	which creep	into	G3588	houses
G1537	G5130	G1063	G1526		G1744	G1519		G3614
καὶ	αἰχμαλωτεύοντες	τὰ	γυναικάρια	σεσωρευμένα				
and	lead captive	G3588	silly women	laden				
G2532	G162		G1133	G4987				
ἀμαρτίαις	ἀγόμενα	ἐπιθυμίαις	ποικίλαις					
with sins	led away	lusts	with divers					
G266	G71	G1939	G4164					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jude 1:4** (Parallel theme): For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

**2 Peter 3:17** (Parallel theme): Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

**Titus 3:3** (Parallel theme): For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.

**Titus 1:11** (Parallel theme): Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

**Jude 1:18** (Parallel theme): How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.

**2 Peter 2:18** (Parallel theme): For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

**Mark 4:19** (Parallel theme): And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

**1 Corinthians 12:2** (Parallel theme): Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led.

**Matthew 23:13** (Parallel theme): But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.

**Jude 1:16** (Parallel theme): These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.